TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER

MAY , 2002

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

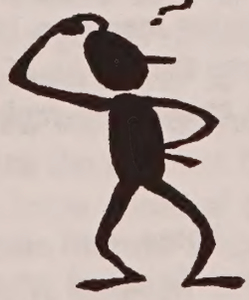
By Bud Hughes K4CWG

Sherry has given me permission to attend the Dayton Hamfest with Mike, KG4DSG. Mike's generous offer to let me go with him will have at least one benefit. Every year I talk about wanting to go to at least one Dayton Hamfest, then at the last minute I find some reason for not going. Soon, hopefully, I will not be able to say, "I wish I could go". I must admit that over the past years several of the local fellows have offered me a ride to Dayton but no mention was made of my being included in the return trip. Then on second thought, no one would dare leave such baggage in that great state of Ohio.

The annual Field Day will be next month. As in the past we are looking forward to a fun event. The girls (and occasional a guy) in the club always prepare a delicious meal at the Field Day site. Field Day will be Saturday and Sunday, June 29th and 30th. We always have a good time together. Be sure to plan to be with us. The club meeting this month is May 28 at 7:00 PM. Bring a friend. 73's

My thanks to two really dedicated government workers: In a local park there were two government workers. The 1st worker was digging a hole, and then would move 10 feet over and dig another hole, move 10 feed and dig another hole. This effort continued on and on. Following close behind was government worker No. 2 with shovel in hand filling in the holes as dug by worker No. 1. Watching the work being done and not understanding why holes were being dug then filled in with the same dirt by the 2nd worker stirred the curiosity of an observer sitting on a nearby park bench.

Our curious observer approached the 2 workers to find the answer to the seemingly insane efforts being performed. "Say, what are you guys doing"? Worker #1 stopped, leaned on his shovel and said. "Well, you see me, Bubba and Cliff are tree planters for the government. My job is to dig the hole. Bubba's job is to plant the tree in the hole and Cliff's job is to fill in the hole. Today is Bubba's day off. Cliff and I decided that with or without Bubba we will do our job.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

MAY BIRTHDAYS

MAY 01 KF4MXF LINDA LATHROP
MAY 02 W9LSD DICK DUELL
MAY 05 KD4LPV WOODROW HURLEY
MAY 07 KG4NDD DAVID MARAGUARDT
MAY 10 N1PAW JOE BONARDI
MAY 11 K4WPW PAUL WYNN
MAY 13 KE4LNS DON McLEAN
MAY 13 AF4W CHARLES SUMMERS
MAY 15 K5UNT MAL HARPER
MAY 16 WD4EBA PAUL BERNHARDT
MAY 17 KF4JI CARL CHRISTIAN
MAY 19 K4JDV JANET VAN ALSTINE
MAY 20 K2TNT GEORGE FISCHER
MAY 22 KG4CEB ANTHONY HURKALA
MAY 23 KE4MXJ PEDRO LORENZI
MAY 24 K4JYX JOHN ADAMS
MAY 25 KE4BBJ CHARLIE PROSSER

HAM REPEATER ETIQUETTE
By Clyde Lee K4EOS

Our TARC has 3 voice repeaters. These are supported by dues paying members, but are open to anyone wishing to use them. As of now the club has on order a new repeater to replace the aging "91" machine.

Some things all hams and especially our members should keep in mind when using our repeaters are:

1) Be courteous to other users. If some ham is in QSO with another one, **DO NOT INTRUDE** unless asked to.

2) FCC rules require ID every 10 minutes.

3) **NO BROADCASTING.** Unless you are conducting a net, FCC rules are against one-way talk. (Who gets a citation for any violation? K4SJC in this case. **DON'T GET HIM A CITATION!)**

4) If someone has an emergency need for the frequency, let them have it! Move to another of our repeaters, or stand by (You may be asked to help).

5) **BE COURTEOUS.** Remember - all members are supporting of and entitled to use of OUR repeaters.

FCC REDESIGNS AMATEUR SERVI CE WEB SITE
From 5/02 QST

The FCC has redesigned its Amateur Radio Service Web site and changed the URL. The updated site is at **wireless.fcc.gov/services/amateur/**. The new layout makes it easier to find information on topics most requested by amateurs, including licensing, amateur exams, filing an application, changing an address or using the Universal Licensing System (ULS). The refurbished site also provides links to recent Amateur Radio-related news from the FCC.

"The new design is a part of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau's continuing effort to meet the needs of the Amateur Radio Service operators as identified in focus groups, letters, phone calls and e-mails," the FCC said in a news release.

The new design clusters FCC public notices, news releases, and other official documents affecting Amateur Radio operators on the right side of the page. On the left side of the page, the new navigation scheme displays information on the Amateur Radio Service, the sequential call sign system, licensing and vanity call signs as well as amateur-related communications policies such as reciprocal agreements. The site also offers links to information on the limited federal preemption known as PRB-1. The Part 97 Amateur Service rules and the Wireless Tele-communications Bureau and ULS sites.

The site, launched on February 20, includes a search engine for the entire FCC Web site, **www.fee.gov**

THE DOCTOR IS IN
From 5/02 QST

Q. Marvin Sackett, WA4WAY. Of Largo, Florida writes: I have four tubes in my storage. All are 6146 finals. Two are RCA 6146A and two are Sylvania 6146W. Can you explain what the letter after the number means?

A. The lineage of the 6146 is as follows:
6146 - The original design with a plate dissipation of 25 W.
6146W - A ruggedized version of the 6146.
6146A - The first generation of improved 6146 design, also with a plate dissipation of 25 W.
6146B - A significantly improved tube design that offers 35 W of plate dissipation as well as an improved heater design that allowed much cooler operation. The 6146B was designed specifically for SSB service, and was used as a workhorse in many CW and SSB rigs.

In other words, the 6146W is not a replacement for the much more capable 6146B. If you must use a 6146, 6146A or 6146W, adjust your rig's final amplifier section so that the maximum plate dissipation rating isn't exceeded. A great Web site for detailed tube descriptions is www.tube.be

Q. Mark Horowitz, WA2YMX, of Plantation, Florida writes: I was wondering if you could help me identify a 3-element Yagi. I picked it up from a widow of a ham. It's probably over 15 years old. The dimensions are: Boom - 18 ft. Elements - 23 feet 9 inches, 25 feet 1-1/2 inches, and 25 feet 2-1/2 inches. I'm fairly sure it's a tri-bander for 10-15-20 meters. Each element has one trap on each end.

A. Sorry, but it is virtually impossible to identify an antenna from such a description - unless you by chance happen to talk to someone who owns the same antenna, and even then it's not a sure thing. Antennas obey the laws of physics and two antennas from two different manufacturers could well have identical dimensions (the difference being in the subtleties in the manufacture of the traps or the hardware).

In addition, such detailed dimensions are not usually given in ads (if you could somehow remember all the ads you've seen) and you would have to search through the instruction sheets of all beam antennas to find a match (if you had access to such a collection).

A special case is when the antenna is intact on a tower and the coaxial feed is still functional. Assuming the ham gear is no longer connected to the antenna (the easiest way to determine which bands the antenna supports), you can use a dip meter to determine the resonant frequencies of the antenna. If you know ahead of time that there is an antenna for sale, borrow a dip meter, such as the Alfa Electronics DM-4061A or an MFJ SWR Analyzer. The MFJ unit is much easier to use than a dip meter; simply plug in the coax and find the

SWR of the antenna on any frequency in the 10-160 meter range. In the end, we do not recommend purchasing an "unknown" antenna at hamfests or estate sales without the original instruction sheet. What you may well have here is a good source of aluminum and possibly traps (if you can backward engineer them) with which to design and build another antenna.

INTERNET UPDATE
From CyberSkip

Grab your AXE and Jam

Fender Damage: You can't argue with aficionados of Gibson or Paul Reed Smith guitars, but any devoted Fender man (or woman) can be spotted by that special gleam of passion in their eyes - or is it simply a kind of craze? The Fender is known as the guitar that shapes itself to the player's personality, rather than the other way around, and it's pretty hard to argue that with Bruce Springsteen, for example, looks particularly cool when he's hammering away at his blond Telecaster. Jimi Hendrix made his upside-down red Stratocaster perhaps the indelible symbol of rock'n 'roll for all time. Jimmy Page's double-necked Gibson SG notwithstanding.

Now fender has made it easier to make yourself cool by learning to play a Fender guitar or bass with the help of a new interactive site. The Fender Players Club featuring articles, videos, song transcriptions and interactive music lessons and is meant for both beginners and grizzled veteran players, providing audio-clip lessons on way-cool guitar licks and instructions on playing along with favorite Fender benders like Jeff Beck, Jaco Pastorius, Merle Haggard and many more.

And for those who learn mostly by ear, a lot of the lessons (Buddy holly's "Not Fade Away," for instance) are given both in written tablatures, and in MP3s that play out the notes in the transcription. If you can play out James Burton's solo on "See See Rider," consider yourself to have arrived as a guitarist. (The Burton stuff is among one of the most effective of the lessons provided on the site, by the way, because it slows things down, picks the phrases apart with explanatory narration.) This is what guitar-lesson books have always wished they could do, and Fender promises it will keep on improving this site.

Http://www.fenderplayersclub.com/

Check connection speed: More and more users are getting downright paranoid about their connection speeds. It says it's 56K but just how good is it actually performing? Other users are paying premium prices for supersonic speeds but often question the advertised speeds.

I've tried a ton of these connection-speed sites. Some of them are clunky, require sending and receiving special files, or just a plain pain in the neck to use.

The Internet Connection Speedometer is a straight forward, no nonsense, easy to read and evaluate test site by McAfee. Try it once and it will become one of your top-ten bookmarks.

http://promos.mcafee.com/speedometer/

Remembering Chuck Jones: The animator who gave us Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck and Elmer Fudd lives on at his official Web site. Here is Chuck Jones' biography, vintage photography, a list of books he wrote, and a filmography, along with extensive cell animation art, some for sale. Fans can also find the birthdates of some of his most famous characters: Porky Pig appeared first on March 2, 1935 in a film called "I Haven't Got a Hat" directed by Friz Freleng. Click on the character's names to hear some famous lines: " You're dethpicable!" declares Daffy Duck. An " Explore" feature

allows searching of all Chuck Jones' artwork by character, title or type.

http://www.chuckjones.com/

A History of Islands in the Pacific: The Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands project tells a portion of the story of over 2,100 islands that make up the cultural region known as Micronesia. They passed through colonial rule by the Spanish, Germans, and Japanese, and then entered into a United States-administered United Nations strategic trusteeship following World War II. This is the story of that trusteeship time, complete with digital archives and a photo collection. In the early 1980s, a member of the High Commissioner's staff devised a program to preserve the records of the Trust Territory government. The history of the American period in Micronesia is of interest to those studying American diplomatic history, political development, applied anthropology, education in developing countries, Third World health problems, and more.

Http://libweb.hawaii.edu/ttpi.html

Net Stamps Out Tyranny Of Distance: How good is the Internet for Philately (that's stamp collecting to you and me:? Naturally it's a huge boon, with its ability to extend the collector's stamp-handling fingers across the globe to sources formerly impossible to reach. What makes it even better is that some postal services have also gone online and, like Singapore Post, even sell stamp collections to overseas buyers. If you wondered where you were going to get the series of Singapore stamps that commemorate the recent start of the Year of the Horse, well here they are on the Web already. They are joined by a large collection going back to 1997.

Http://vpostmall.vpost.com.sg/vpostmall/mainFile Templ.jsp

Diamonds' Glitz Hides Deeper Story: From the National Geographic, this interactive photo essay unearths the usually dirty and often dangerous business of finding diamonds. These rocks have a long journey before they reach the cushioned shelves of city jewelry stores. A link provides access to an excerpt from the full article, along with useful links to diamond industry sites, and extra like the photographer's technical notes and interactive maps.

Http://magma.nationalgeographic.com/ngm/data/2002/03/01/sights_n_sounds/media.1.2.html

How Terrorists Work: Endingterrorism.com is a site sure to foster insomnia, as it lists all the ways terrorists could destroy America's infrastructure. From a well-placed suitcase nuclear device to a sabotage of the Alaska oil pipeline, there are enough possibilities to keep security officers fully employed. A wide variety of doomsday plots are outlined but so are suggested solutions. The brain behind this site is none other than Marshall Brain, the founder of HowStuffWorks.com - a compendium of simple, illustrated explanations for everything from how cell phones work to how whales sing.

Http://www.EndingTerrorism.com

Picturing The Century: The National Archives in Washington, DC, has put online an exhibition of photographs that span the 20th century, arranged in Chronological galleries and seven portfolios of individual photographers. The images were on display at the National Archives from March 12, 1999 through July 4, 2001, and now can be seen online. The images capture some pivotal moments, some random moments from the past 100 years, but all were chosen for their exquisite detail. They include immigrants arriving at Ellis Island, the Wright Brothers flight, a traffic jam of horses and carts in New York City in 1903, a mushroom cloud, and footprints on the Moon.

Http://www.nara.gov/exhall/picturing_the_century/home.html

ABELL'S ANECDOTE

By Pike Abell W4EPU

YET ANOTHER ANIMAL STORY:

This is about squirrels, lots of squirrels. My bird feeders are meant to be just that - bird feeders. Fortunately they are erected in such a way to be accessible to birds only. Squirrels often try, but are not able to get to the top. So, they do the next best thing. They feed on the seeds that the birds drop to the ground. That's not good, because the seeds are for the birds, (no pun intended) not for squirrels, and some birds do feed on the ground.

Some time ago three squirrels would spend all day every day, foraging on the ground under the bird feeders.

I decided upon a humane way to get rid of the squirrels - trap and relocate them to a wilderness area far enough away that I doubt if they would ever be able to find their way back. (I keep that location a closely guarded secret for fear that someone living in or near the wilderness area may blame me for an increase in their squirrel population.)

I, being a past Arkansas farm boy, know all about rabbit traps which may also be used to trap squirrels. It is simply a box with a trap door held open by a sole-called trigger. When the trigger is disturbed, it releases the door, trapping the squirrel(s). (I have occasionally caught two squirrels at the same time in one trap.) I built a couple of traps and baited the triggers with peanut butter and bird seeds. The first day I caught two of the squirrels, one in each trap. On the second day the other one. Thank goodness, no more squirrels.

I put the traps away for possible future use. The future was only three days later when three more squirrels appeared on the scent. (No, they were not the same squirrels.) I trapped and hauled them away. Yet they kept coming - always in threes. I finally gave up when over a period of a few months I trapped and relocated 57 squirrels. I again cleaned up and placed the traps in storage. After all, perhaps squirrels don't really eat <u>that</u> much!

Later, when the oranges began to ripen, squirrels would bite into several oranges a day, eat a little and eventually dislodge them. The oranges would fall to the ground and go to waste. Once again I pulled out and dusted off the ol' squirrel traps. As of this writing, the total number of squirrels trapped and relocated is 103 and counting.

In the meantime, I caught and released unharmed, one crow, two armadillos, and several possums (opossums?)

As the saying goes, 'ANNIMAL STORIES ARE EVERYWHERE'.
73s es 88s

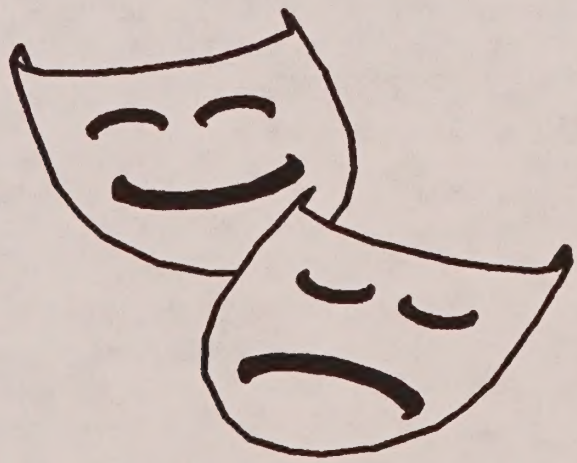
APRIL MINUTES

After the Pledge of Allegiance, and introduction of members and guests, Harmonica Bill played Happy Birthday and other songs.

Stephanie K4MVO handed out Certificates of Appreciation to those members who worked The Race for the Red. She also talked about upcoming events of interest to club members - The hurricane conference in Tampa the latter part of May and the June 8 Tornado-Hurricane-Terrorism conference at Melbourne Auditorium. For further details please contact Stephanie.

Bud K4CWG told members that the new VXR5000 25W repeater order has been canceled and a VXR7000 50W repeater has been ordered in its place. A motion was made and carried to go ahead with this change.

The planned program was canceled at the last minute. In its place, Carol KC4VIN showed a video of a past meeting where Cliff KC4SYD gave a program (in costume) of his experiences in Saudi Arabia, and of the surprise ending for Cliff - a belly dancer. After the performance, Cliff advised the club that belly dancing was not allowed in Saudi Arabia.



TREASURERS REPORT
By Becky Lee, KF4HTB

Balance forward from 2001	$4574.11
Deposits Year to Date	1390.69
TOTAL INCOME	**$5964.80**
Expenditures	3380.34
BALANCE AS AT 4/31/02	**$2584.46**

CLUB OFFICERS

President: Bud Hughes, K4CWG. 269-0779
V.Pres: Ozzie Osband, N4SCY. 321-LIFTOFF
Sec/Treas: Becky Lee, KF4HTB, 267-9375

ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

Pat Renninger, KF4LTY. 267-9431
John Renninger, KE4ZPA. 267-9431
Ralph Hall AE4LE
Sherry Hughes, KU4ZO. 269-0779

REPEATER CUSTODIAN BOARD

Les Griner, K4SJC (146.91) 267-1565
Warren Murray, W4CEL (146.97) 638-5476
Dave McLean, WB4SIG (444.15) 267-6181
Larry Carr, WB9MFJ (Packet-Rose Node) 268-4114

CLUB INFORMATION

Meetings: Monthly on 4th Tuesday at 1 hrs. at Jaycee Building

Newsletter Editors: KF4HTB Becky Lee
K4EOS Clyde Lee

Nets: **VIP**-Thursdays at 1000 hrs. 146.910
Friendship-Thursdays at 1830 hrs. 146.910
Mosquito-Wednesdays at 1900 hrs. 28.333
Traders-Mondays at 1930 hrs 146.910
Red Eye-Sundays 6AM-7AM 7.165 MHz

TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P. O. BOX 73
TITUSVILLE FL 32781-0073

HAVE A HAPPY AND SAFE MEMORIAL DAY

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Total membership: 206 (142 regular, 46 family, 12 honorary, 6 other)

NEW MEMBERS: None

RENEWALS: KE4BBH Jim Prevatt
KE4HOG Nancy Prevatt
KS4BD Darwin McCombs
N4MCZ Rod Iwan
KF4MUV Patty King
KE4MYJ Pedro Lorenzi
KE4YQF Mary Lorenzi
KB4RBU Vern Bauer
W4RUN Bill Canfield
K1TJK Thomas Kelly
KT4UD Leonard Zbiegien
W4VQB Robert Nedimyer
W4ZUY Wynn Rostek
W4ZUZ Thersa Valek

HAMFESTS: 06/8 FT. McCOY
07/26-27 MILTON
08/24 FT. PIERCE
09/7 MELBOURNE
10/05 JACKSONVILLE
10/19 JACKSONVILLE